



Proclamation

WHEREAS, the people of Hawai'i join the nation and the world in mourning the passing of Ronald Wilson Reagan, the fortieth President of the United States, who passed away on June 5, 2004, at his home in California after a long battle with Alzheimer's disease; and

WHEREAS, Ronald Reagan is survived by his wife, Nancy, and children Michael, Patricia and Ronald Prescott, and was preceded in death by his daughter, Maureen; and

WHEREAS, Ronald Reagan was born on February 6, 1911, in Tampico, Illinois, to Nelle Wilson and John Edward "Jack" Reagan; and

WHEREAS, Ronald Reagan majored in economics and sociology at Eureka College, where he also studied acting, participated in sports and served as student body president; and

WHEREAS, Ronald Reagan gained national exposure as a sports broadcaster for Chicago Cubs baseball games before enlisting as a private in the Army Reserve; and

WHEREAS, Ronald Reagan was "discovered" by an agent for Warner Brothers and eventually made 53 motion pictures and one television movie, including "Knut Rockne – All American" in 1940; and

WHEREAS, Ronald Reagan, after being called to active duty, rose to the rank of captain by the time of his honorable discharge in 1945; and

WHEREAS, Ronald Reagan became active in politics following World War II, and in 1966 won a landslide victory to become Governor of California; and

WHEREAS, Ronald Reagan was elected President of the United States in 1980, with George Herbert Walker Bush as his vice presidential running mate, and won reelection in 1984; and

WHEREAS, Ronald Reagan, known as the "Great Communicator," gained even more support and respect after surviving an assassination attempt in 1981 and major surgical procedures in 1985 and 1987; and

WHEREAS, Ronald Reagan served as President during one of the most dynamic periods in history, ushering in a new era of national renewal in which America would once again "be the exemplar of freedom and a beacon of hope" for those who do not have freedom; and

WHEREAS, Ronald Reagan transformed the U.S. economy through "Reaganomics," resulting in massive income tax cuts, decreases in governmental regulation and encouragement of private initiative; and

WHEREAS, Ronald Reagan fought for long-term solvency of the Social Security system and expanded the Medicare program to better protect the elderly and disabled; and

WHEREAS, Ronald Reagan helped end the Cold War through negotiations with the Soviet Union, resulting in a reduction of strategic nuclear arsenals and dismantling of the infamous Berlin Wall, immortalized with his famous quote: "Mr. Gorbachev, tear down this wall"; and

WHEREAS, Ronald Reagan once remarked that he would like to be remembered as "the President who made Americans believe in themselves again,"

NOW, THEREFORE, I, LINDA LINGLE, Governor of the State of Hawai'i, do hereby order the lowering of the United States flag and the Hawai'i state flag to half-staff on all state buildings for a period of 30 days from his death, from June 5 through July 4, 2004, and encourage our residents and visitors to submit personal messages honoring President Reagan.

DONE, at the State Capitol, in the Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this seventh day of June 2004, along with the attached statement.

Linda Lingle
Governor, State of Hawai'i